WASHINGTON, **D.C** - Congressman Jim Costa, D-Fresno, has joined three other California House members from rural counties in calling on the state transportation commission to fund rural projects.

Costa, along with Reps. Lois Capps, D- Santa Barbara; George Radanovich, R-Mariposa; and Mike Thompson, D-Napa, have sent a letter to Marian Bergeson, Chair of the California Transportation Commission calling for funding for rural projects.

" We are concerned by reports that distribution of project funding may not include congestion projects in rural areas of the state, " the letter stated. The Highway 198 four-lane expressway in Kings County is one of the projects noted in the letter as having been under consideration for decades.